GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4230
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2000
PROCUREMENT OF RICE
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the specifications for procurement of rice are fixed annually by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the scientific criteria adopted for fixation of rice specifications; and

(d) the reasons for changing the rice specifications every year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRA CHAUHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b),(c) & (d) : The Uniform Specifications (FAQ standards) for procurement of foodgrains including rice for the Central Pool are prescribed by the Government every year before commencement of the marketing seasons for adoption uniformly by all procuring agencies. This is done in consultation with the procuring and consuming States, as well as the Food Corporation of India, the weather and crop conditions, Prevention of Food Adulteration(PFA) Act norms etc. Since the weather and crop conditions are necessarily taken into consideration, the specification is fixed for each marketing season.